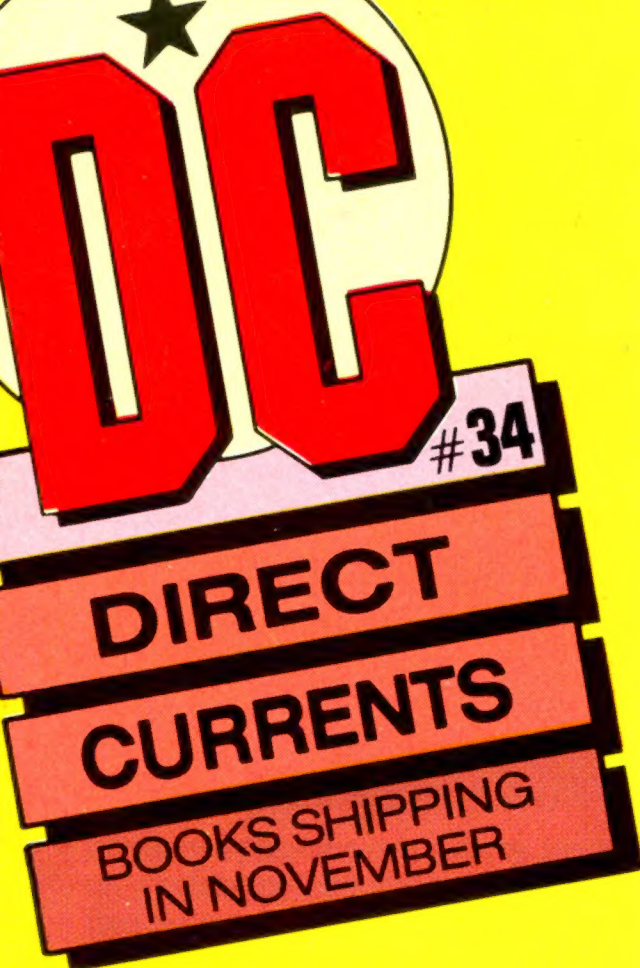




IN THIS ISSUE:

ROBIN

The Boy Wonder returns

BOOKS OF MAGIC

Four-issue Prestige Format series

WORLD WITHOUT END

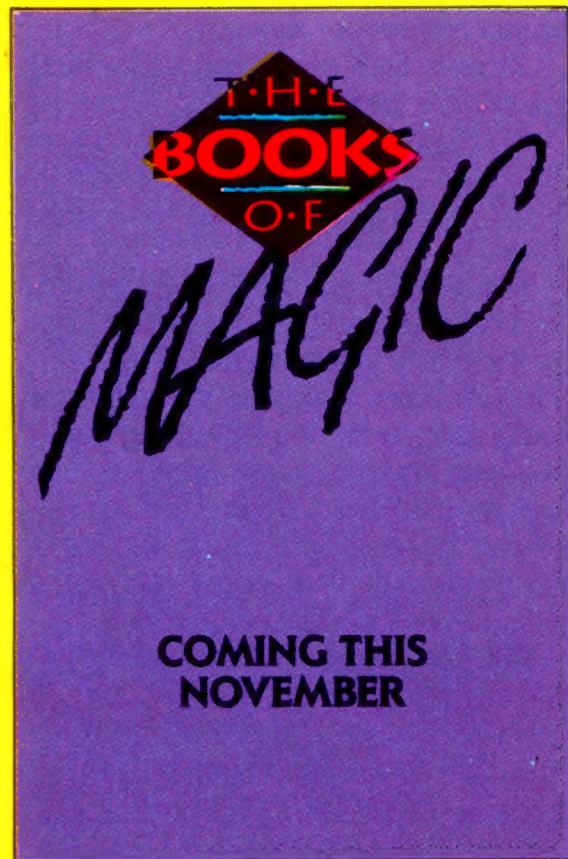
Gender battles on a horrific battlefield

BATMAN: THE DAILIES

Newspaper strip collection from DC and Kitchen Sink Press

PLUS...

An interview with Chuck Dixon and Tom Lyle of the ROBIN series



THE BOY WONDER IS BACK IN THE *ROBIN* MINISERIES

Robin is back.

His name is Tim Drake and for the last year or so, he has been helping Batman in his unending war on crime. But his mentor has refused to let him assume the identity of Robin—an identity last taken by Jason Todd who was killed battling the Joker. Now, Batman feels Tim's time has come.

Tim has much to learn if he's to survive as Robin. Armed with the new high-tech Robin costume, he travels to Paris to study with one of Batman's martial arts masters. The lessons quickly become a series of life-and-death struggles as the 13-year-old Tim is forced into a conflict with a lovely girl and a supremely savage killer, the blind assassin King Snake.

The tale is brilliantly told in the five-issue miniseries, **ROBIN**. It's a high adventure story, full of exotic locales,

strange secrets, terrifying danger, and a dazzling cast of characters, including Lady Shiva, a beautiful woman who lives for combat; DuCard, the remorseless man-hunter who once showed Batman the meaning of corruption; and Batman, the charismatic loner whose icy calm hides a terrible fear. But most of all, **ROBIN** is the story of a boy's rite of passage, his transformation from child to hero.

ROBIN #1 will feature a full-process 12½" × 20" color poster of Robin in his new costume, painted by Neal Adams.

ROBIN is a 5-issue Standard Format miniseries, written by Chuck Dixon with art by Tom Lyle and Bob Smith.

In the persons of Dick Grayson and Jason Todd, Robin has been Batman's sidekick for more than 50 years. Now, as Tim Drake, Robin becomes a unique and exciting character in his own right.



people at WORK

CHUCK DIXON and TOM LYLE

First there was Dick Grayson. Then came Jason Todd. Now, meet Tim Drake as he is at long last given the opportunity to assume the fifty-year-old mantle and heritage of partner to the Dark Night Detective as the new Robin. Of course, readers have already met the young man in the pages of *BATMAN* and *DETECTIVE COMICS*, but this month begins his five-issue journey through a miniseries, *Trial*, that defines Tim Drake and places him, at last, in the costume of Robin.

Shepherding Tim through his trials and tribulations is the creative team of writer Chuck Dixon and penciller Tom Lyle (who will be joined by inker Bob Smith.) Chuck and Tom took some time out from working on the *ROBIN* miniseries to discuss their plans for Tim Drake with *Direct Currents*.

"I was born in Philadelphia in 1954," Chuck told us. "I had a relatively uneventful childhood, pretty much the same background all of us in comic books have. But Batman was, honestly, one of my favorites when I was a kid. As far as occupations go, I never did anything I was meant to do other than work in comics. So there were a lot of meaningless jobs . . . I did write children's books for a while. I wrote Winnie-the-Pooh, the Disney version, before I went into comics full-time about five years ago. My first work was *Evangeline* for Comico, and from there I went to *Airboy* at Eclipse, then over to Marvel, and, finally, here to DC and Robin."

Tom Lyle, born in 1953 and raised in Jacksonville, Florida also has had comics in his background, with the Batman and his juvenile sidekick figuring prominently in his early comics consciousness. "I had two older brothers who read comics, so I got the hand-me-down Batmans when they were through with them. Those Batman comics from the late 1950s and early 1960s were probably one of my bigger influences. I've always been into Batman. In fact, when I first started doing *STARMAN* with Roger Stern, I was after him to find an excuse to get Batman in there. I wanted to draw this guy."

ROBIN isn't Chuck and Tom's first collaborative effort. "The weird, kind of serendipitous thing about all of this, is that while I was doing my early work for an independent comics company, I met Chuck at a convention here in Philadelphia and he offered me the Skywolf back-up series in *Airboy* for Eclipse."

The Dixon/Lyle team landed the plum assignment of introducing Tim Drake as Robin through informal talks with editors Denny O'Neil and Dan Raspler. "Tom was waiting for a new project with DC to begin, and had talked to Denny and Dan about some interim work to fill the time until the other project got off the ground. They asked him if he was interested in drawing the miniseries. He agreed and mentioned my name as the writer because of our previous work together at



Eclipse. We have a good working relationship . . . and the fact that we live 20 minutes from each other makes the whole collaborative effort that much easier and attractive."

Chuck went into the writing of the *ROBIN* miniseries, *Trial*, with some very definite ideas of who the character should be. "My favorite 'version' of Robin has always been the one from the late 1940s, early 1950s . . . I actually thought the Robin in Frank Miller's *DARK KNIGHT* got back to that feel. To me, Robin's always been treated as a scaled-down adult, but I've always preferred him to be treated as an adolescent or pre-adolescent and to act like one. I think we've achieved that in *ROBIN*, getting back to his being a kid again.

"Jason Todd didn't appeal to me at all. I couldn't understand why Batman put up with him, but Tim Drake is very different. I think he was handed to us as a more appealing character and we were told to extrapolate on what was already there from the work Alan Grant and Marv Wolfman did with him. They laid some great groundwork, turning him into something that the fans will really like."

Tom is in complete agreement with Chuck on this point. "To be honest, I was never a big fan of Robin, but Tim Drake is a lot of fun. I like this guy a lot. I hope the fans will like him as much as I do because I think he's pretty cool—and a far cry from Jason Todd, who I definitely found hard to like, mostly because of his flip attitude." Tom laughs as he reveals one of his favorite reasons for being a part of the *ROBIN* miniseries. "I get to introduce the new costume, which I like a lot. Some of the changes are much for the better, as you'll see.

"The miniseries is a sort of coming of age for Tim Drake," Chuck continues. "He has to prove himself worthy of being Robin and he has to be different at the end from the way he was at the beginning. What we start out with is a kid who's a computer whiz and a good detective, with a fine analytical mind, who's also an athlete, but he's by no means a fighter. By the end of the series we've turned him into a fighter.

"But the main thing we've done is to make Tim less trusting. He's rather naive at the beginning of the story and he takes people at their word because his word can be trusted. He's constantly betrayed in the series, people he trusts keep stabbing him in the back so he gets a little more cynical edge to him . . . but not so much that he's a completely wasted, burned-out character. He sticks to his moral

values, which is also a struggle because the story throws him into a real nest of vipers. The fact that one of the people on his side is Lady Shiva helps to show him that all the moral issues involved are really complex because she's by no means anybody's idea of a good guy."

Tom sees Tim Drake as a more fully realized and complex character than his predecessors. "Tim's almost as serious as Batman, but he doesn't have that underlying obsessive edge. Batman is possessed, but Robin is obsessed, mostly because he wants to do well. He's eager to please, so he's constantly trying to help, but he's also a realist. So when Batman says to him 'You're ready to be Robin,' Tim goes 'Hmm, I'm not so sure you're right.' He's ready mentally, but when he starts looking at the situation he sees that he needs more training to handle the physical aspects of the job. Basically, we're following him through what was supposed to be his formal training and in actuality becomes informal on-the-job training.

"Our goal is to make him a much more self-confident character than he is in the beginning, because he's only a 13-year-old kid, to give him confidence in himself as an individual and as a detective. He'll also be slightly less uptight and more worldly as he's exposed to more of the real world. We want him to be a contributing factor to the stories rather than just being a goof who stands around and makes wisecracks."

Chuck is quick to point out that the Robin series isn't there to make Tim Drake yet another scaled-down adult. "I wouldn't want to say he's matured entirely, but certainly his world view has changed. He's more street smart.

"I think at the end of this miniseries, he'll be a real good sidekick for Batman. He'll also be a character who can stand on his own. I really do have a feeling that the readers are *really* going to like this Robin. Even when I was a kid my thinking was, 'What does Batman need with Robin, anyway?', but you realize that he's an integral part of the series. I think maybe the readers are going to be willing to treat him that way as well.

"I'd like to think that this Robin might actually get Batman out of a jam now and then, all on his own, because he's got everything Dick Grayson had and maybe a little bit more . . . and without whatever attitude Todd had. I think he's a very appealing character."

BOOK SHIPPING IN NOVEMBER

☐ STAR TREK® THE NEXT GENERATION #16

While investigating a "white hole," the crew of the *Enterprise* begins to experience adverse effects that bring about disastrous results. Can Picard find the answer before it's too late? Written by Michael Jan Friedman, with art by Pablo Marcos. Cover by Jerome Moore. (New Format) \$1.50

☐ STARMAN #30

Part 1 of the 4-part "Seduction of Starman": Money will do strange things to a man . . . even if he's a super-hero. Will discover this as he loses sight of his responsibilities, choosing to live the life of a millionaire with a beautiful socialite. Written by Len Strazewski, with art by Dave Hoover and John Nyberg. Cover by Hoover. \$1.00

☐ SUICIDE SQUAD #48

The Institute for Meta-Human Studies in Pittsburgh summons Amanda Waller and the Squad to help them deal with the unstoppable menace of The New Thinker, an insane cybernetic cyberpunk. His next victim: Barbara Gordon. Written by John Ostrander and Kim Yale, with art by Geof Isherwood. Cover by Steve Lightle. \$1.00

☐ SUPERBOY #12

It's Christmas in Smallville and all the residents seem to be getting their holiday wishes . . . except for Superboy, who wishes he knew how all of Smallville gained super-powers, and who wished for the monster tearing up Main Street. Written by John Moore, with art by Curt Swan and Ty Templeton. Cover by Kevin Maguire and Templeton. \$1.00

☐ SUPERMAN #51

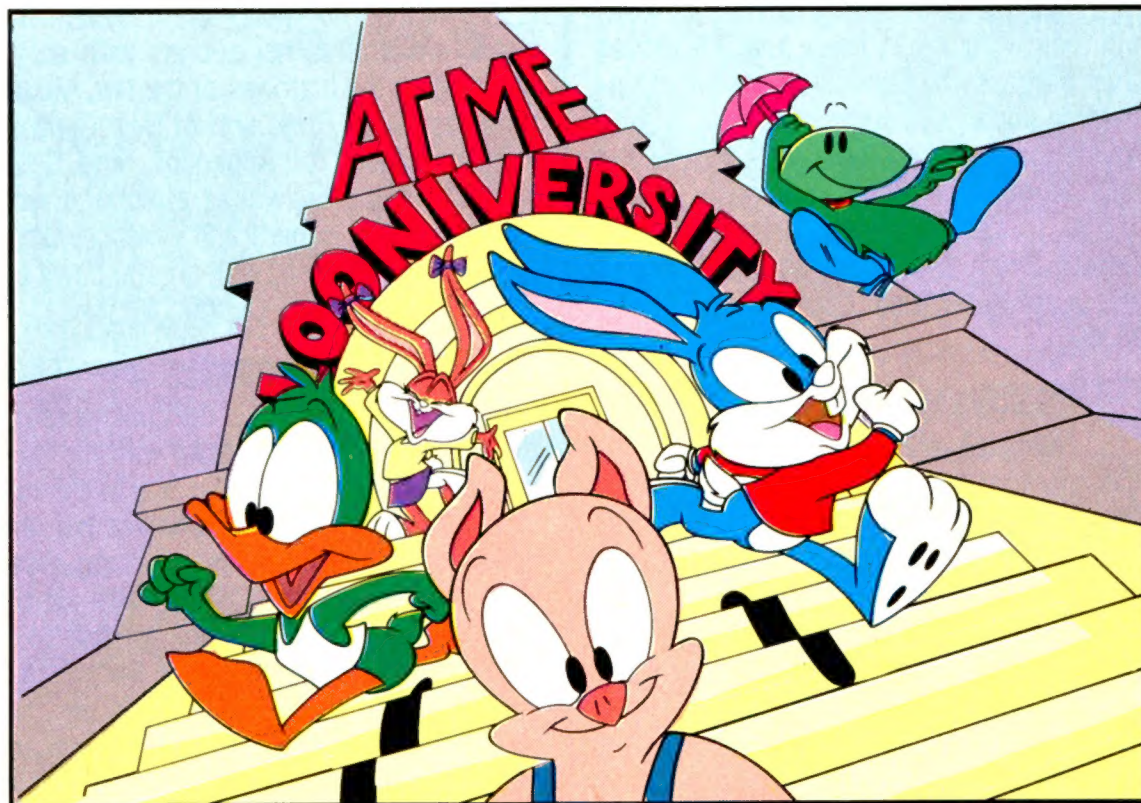
The immortal Mister Z, collector of "interesting" souls . . . a man who claims that he and Superman have tangled before . . . though the Man of Steel can't remember when. Written and pencilled by Jerry Ordway and inked by Dennis Janke. Cover by Ordway. \$1.00

☐ SWAMP THING #103

A cast member dies . . . and that's only the beginning. Swamp Thing and his child, Tefé, must face an unexpected and deadly foe awaiting them in the heart of the Green, while Abby and Brenda confront the forces of the High Priest. Written by Doug Wheeler, with art by Mike Hoffman and Doug Hazlewood. Painted cover by Matt Wagner. (Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format.) \$1.50

☐ TINY TOON ADVENTURES™ MAGAZINE #2

Don't be left out in the cold as the crazed class of Acme Looniversity™, school for cartoon characters of tomorrow, breaks the winter ice with a blizzard of comics, jokes, puzzles, and hilarious features to keep you warm through the winter months. Cover by Juan Ortiz and Bob Pasquale. \$1.95



TINY TOON ADVENTURES™ MAGAZINE #2

☐ TWILIGHT #3 (of a 3-book miniseries)

Tommy Tomorrow has gone mad for power and now he and his band of outlawed Planeteers stage a full-scale assault against the sacrosanct legions of the immortal Karel Sorensen . . . and Tommy becomes more powerful than the one-time member of the Star Rovers. Written by Howard Chaykin, with art and cover by José Luis García-López. (Suggested for Mature Readers. Prestige Format.) \$3.95

☐ WHO'S WHO #6 (of a 16-issue maxiseries)

Hawkman, by Graham Nolan, claims the cover spot of this latest collection of 24 all-new loose-leaf page entries. Also featured in this issue are Barbara Gordon by Kevin Maguire, Copperhead by Matt Wagner, The Huntress by Joe Staton, Valor by Adam Hughes and Al Gordon, and many others. (Deluxe Loose-leaf Format) \$4.95

☐ WONDER WOMAN #50

After centuries of isolation, Wonder Woman's Amazon sisters finally set foot on Man's World. This special double-sized anniversary issue also features ten portfolio pages by Sergio Aragones, Chris Bachalo, Brian Bolland, Adam Hughes, Cynthia Martin, Linda Medley, Kevin Nowlan, P. Craig Russell, Marie Severin, and Matt Wagner. Written by George Pérez, with art by Jill Thompson and Romeo Tanghal. Cover by Pérez. \$1.50

☐ WORLD WITHOUT END #1 (of a 6-book limited series)

It's the ultimate war between the sexes, as the first sexually aware woman in eons threatens a brutal, male supremacist society in a unique world that, literally, has a life of its own. Written by Jamie Delano, with fully-painted art and painted cover by John Higgins. (Suggested for Mature Readers. Special new format.) \$2.50



WHO'S WHO #6 HAWKMAN

BOOK SHIPPING IN NOVEMBER

JUSTICE LEAGUE AMERICA #45

This may prove to be the most dangerous mission Ice has ever undertaken . . . she's agreed to go out with Guy Gardner again. Only this time he's promised to behave himself. Honest. Written by Keith Giffen and J.M. DeMatteis, with art by Russell Braun and John Beatty. Cover by Adam Hughes. \$1.00

JUSTICE LEAGUE EUROPE #21

Part 2 of 3. Now that they've worn out their welcome in Paris, the JLE moves their embassy to London where the membership undergoes some changes . . . and mysterious men in black skulk around the new embassy looking covetously at the JLE's . . . cat? Written by Keith Giffen and Gerard Jones, with art by Marshall Rogers and Josef Rubinstein. Cover by Bart Sears \$1.00

JUSTICE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL Special #2

The spotlight is on The Huntress as, with a little help from her friends in the JLA, she tries to get her life in order. There's one hitch in her plan, however, and that's The Hunter, the newest costumed vigilante on the streets . . . and under The Hunter's mask is Sal, Helena's ex-bodyguard. Now it's up to her to find out exactly which side of the law he's on. Written by Joey Cavalieri, with art by Joe Staton, Pablo Marcos, and Mark Nelson. Cover by Staton and Bob Smith. \$2.95

L.E.G.I.O.N. '91 #23

Celebrate the L.E.G.I.O.N.'s third year with a new title and a special 48-page issue that answers the question, "Whatever Happened to the Durlan?" A flashback story reveals the exact nature of the relationship between Vril Dox and the Durlan, who vanished from the L.E.G.I.O.N. some time ago, as well as the Durlan's fate. Written by Alan Grant. The 30-page flashback tale art is by Richard Piers Rayner and Kim DeMulder. Jim Fern and Jeff Albrecht provide the art for the framing sequence. Cover by Rayner. (*New Format*) \$2.50

LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT #14

Part 4 of the 5-part "Prey": Hugo Strange's mindgames intensify, as he sends The Batman into the labyrinth of his own worst nightmares. Catwoman guest-stars. Written by Doug Moench, with art and cover by Paul Gulacy and Terry Austin. (*Deluxe Format*) \$1.50

THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #15

The Khundish Empire is back on the war-path with a new deadly weapon called the Red Terror. They begin a massive invasion of the United Planets that the now diminished U.P. might not survive . . . even with the help of the Legion. Written by Keith Giffen and Tom and Mary Bierbaum, with art and cover by Giffen and Al Gordon. (*Deluxe Format*) \$1.75

LOBO #3

(*of a 4-issue miniseries*)

Lobo's pursuers are closing in on him, but he can't be bothered with that right now, now when he and Miss Tribb are embroiled in the deadliest contest of his career . . . a spelling bee. Written by Keith Giffen and Alan Grant, with art and painted cover by Simon Bisley. (*New Format*) \$1.50

MISTER MIRACLE #23

Mother Box knows all . . . and in this issue, she shares her secrets with us as she reveals the histories of the two Mister Miracles: Scott Free, son of New Genesis and the cruelty of Apokolips, and Shilo Norman, a mortal whose childhood was also steeped in tragedy and violence. Written by Doug Moench, with art and cover by Joe Phillips and Bob Dvorak. \$1.00

MS. TREE QUARTERLY #3

Ms. Tree confronts the chilling spectre of prejudice as she deals with the horrors of gay-bashing even as she seeks out the murderer of the man who had her targeted for "outing" in his gay magazine. Written by Max Allan Collins, with art by Terry Beatty. Also: Midnight appears in a back-up story that finds him on the trail of a serial killer whose hunger goes beyond bloodlust. Written by Ed Gorman, with art by Graham Nolan. The Butcher appears in Part Two of his prose story, written by Mike Baron, with art by Shea Anton Pensa. Painted cover by Scott Hampton. 80 pages. (*Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format.*) \$3.95

THE NAZZ #2

(*of a 4-book miniseries*)

The Nazz tries to uncover the secrets behind the government's heroes, The Retaliators, imbues his followers with superpowers of their own, and becomes a comic book hero. Written by Tom Veitch, with art and cover by Bryan Talbot and full-process color by Les Dorscheid. (*Suggested for Mature Readers. Prestige Format.*) \$4.95

NEW GODS #23

It's murder and mayhem in Manhattan as Orion and Lightray battle the behemoth called Agogg. They're all after a man called Willis Ames who has a secret of his own. Written by Mark Evanier, with art and cover by Steve Erwin and Will Blyberg. (*New Format*) \$1.50

THE NEW TITANS #72

The old Titans are missing and the Terminator's been hired to find them. But the race against time turns deadly when a Titan dies. Guest-starring Aqualad and Golden Eagle. Written by Marv Wolfman, with art and cover by Tom Grummett and Al Vey. (*Deluxe Format*) \$1.75

ROBIN #1

Part 1 of the 5-part "Trial": Robin returns to the DC Universe, in his brand-new costume, as Tim Drake travels to Paris to learn the skills he will need to join The

Batman as his new partner. But Tim gets more than training and gains practical experience when he finds himself involved with a gang of international terrorists led by a blind assassin. Also included is a full-color painted poster by Neal Adams of Robin in his new costume. Written by Chuck Dixon, with art by Tom Lyle and Bob Smith. Cover by Brian Bolland. \$1.00

ROBIN Cloisonné Pin

Read the comic book . . . and wear the pin. In conjunction with the debut of the ROBIN miniseries, DC presents a 1-inch black and yellow on gold cloisonné pin of the new Robin logo. Manufactured by Graphitti Designs. \$5.95

THE SANDMAN #23

To free his former lover from the horrors of hell, Sandman must confront the fallen angel, Lucifer. Written by Neil Gaiman, with art by Kelley Jones and Malcolm Jones III. Painted cover by Dave McKean. (*Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format.*) \$1.50

SGT. ROCK Special #10

Sgt. Rock and the Combat-Happy Joes of Easy Company are back in another collection of classic combat tales from the best of DC's 30 years of blazing battle action. Stories and art are by Robert Kanigher, Joe Kubert, and Russ Heath. Cover by Kubert. \$2.00

SHADE, THE CHANGING MAN #7

The madness stream catapults Shade and Kathy to the streets of New York City, where they encounter living, breathing garbage! Written by Peter Milligan, with art by Chris Bachalo and Mark Pennington. Painted cover by Brendan McCarthy. (*Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format.*) \$1.50

THE SHADOW STRIKES! #15

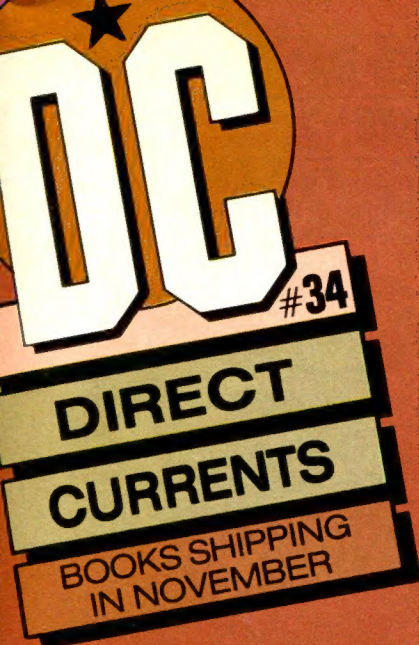
Part 4 of 4: It's the final confrontation between The Shadow and the Chicago Mob . . . the end result might well leave the Windy City in ruins. Written by Gerard Jones, with art and cover by Eduardo Barreto. (*Deluxe Format*) \$1.75

SPELLJAMMER™ Comics #5

The ship touches down on a planet populated by a most unpleasant race of beings . . . and, much to the crew's alarm, Meredith seems to like it there. Written by Barbara Kesel, with art by Michael Collins and Dan Panosian. Cover by Collins. (*New Format*) \$1.75

STAR TREK® #16

The *Enterprise* accepts the invitation of a satellite to attend the holiday celebration on an alien world. But the festivities turn sour when brutish raiders also respond to the invitation. Written by Peter David, with art by Gordon Purcell and Arne Starr. Cover by Jerome Moore. (*New Format*) \$1.50



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TAKE A MYSTICAL JOURNEY THROUGH THE *BOOKS OF MAGIC*

What would you do if you were told you could be the world's greatest enchanter if you chose to walk the path of magic? Young Timothy Hunter has accepted this challenge. His story is told in the new four-issue limited series, **BOOKS OF MAGIC**.

It's a chance of a lifetime that has been presented to Tim. Helping him to decide are four remarkable guides: The Phantom Stranger, who will walk Tim through the panorama of history from the beginning of time to the present day; John Constantine, who will take Tim somewhere dangerous and magical, somewhere enchanted and the home of death, somewhere like America; Dr. Occult will accompany Tim through the land of wonder and terrible danger, Faerie; and Mister E, the blind occult vigilante who will escort Tim forward through time—to the end of the universe.

Not everyone wishes young Tim well, however. Mister E and the Brotherhood of Cold Flame want Tim dead. The Queen of the Faerie sees him as promising servant material. John Constantine

abandons him in San Francisco while Zatanna takes him to an occult nightclub where the denizens want only one thing—Tim, dead or alive.

BOOKS OF MAGIC is a story book, a history book, a guide book—a book of wonder. Nightmares and dreams abound as you travel from the heart of the DC Universe to the end of the world. Special guest stars abound throughout the series, from Merlin, Dr. Fate, Lucifer, Deadman, Jason Blood, Tefé, The Legion of Super-Heroes, to other worlds like Gemworld, the Sword & Sorcery Dimension, to Hell itself.

Neil Gaiman is the writer of all four 48-page books in this limited, Prestige Format series. Book One is painted by John Bolton, Book Two is painted by Scott Hampton, Charles Vess paints Book Three, and Paul Johnson paints Book Four. Remember that **BOOKS OF MAGIC** is *not* Suggested for Mature Readers, but will appeal to all those who like good stories, great art, and magic—no matter what their age.

BOOKS OF MAGIC—one spellbinding tale, one enchanting experience.



FROM • THE EDITOR

This month is a special edition of **DIRECT CURRENTS** as we trumpet the arrival of two very important miniseries with our very first double cover. **ROBIN** marks the return of one of DC's best-known characters to our universe. His absence has left a void and I hope you will pick up copies of the riveting new miniseries which makes its debut this month. A cloisonné pin of the new Robin logo is also available. Check the listings for more information.

BOOKS OF MAGIC is a Prestige Format miniseries that is sure to clue you in to what the magical realm of the DC Universe is all about. There will be special appearances by many members of this mystical part of DC, and you'll definitely want to be a part of this journey.

ROBIN and **BOOKS OF MAGIC** are hot properties! Be sure to get your copies today!

Tammy

COMICS HISTORY RELIVED IN **BATMAN: THE DAILIES, VOL. 1**

Long before the current syndicated Batman comic strip running in newspapers nationwide, there was another Batman strip, only bits and pieces of which have been reprinted in the years since they were first published. Because of wartime paper shortages, the original strip appeared in less than one dozen newspapers, sharply limiting the size of the potential audience.

Now, DC Comics and Kitchen Sink combine their resources to bring you **BATMAN: THE DAILIES**, a three-volume reprinting of the entire run of the classic 1940s syndicated newspaper strip. The strips, assembled from private collections, were painstakingly restored by Kitchen Sink Press, well known for its collections of Li'l Abner, Flash Gordon, The Spirit, and other classic strips.

BATMAN: THE DAILIES Volume 1 is a 176-page book that

contains the entire run of the daily strip from its debut on October 25, 1943 through October 28, 1944. Also included in this series is rare promotional material issued by the McClure Syndicate, original newspaper ads for the comics. Batman expert Joe Desris provides a history of the strip based on interviews with the surviving creators. Future volumes will complete the run of the Batman dailies, featuring the work of Bob Kane, Bill Finger, Jack Schiff, Charles Paris, Dick Sprang, and Jack Burnley. Also planned is a four-color reprinting of the Sunday Batman strips.

BATMAN: THE DAILIES Vol. 1 is an 11" x 8½" trade paperback and features a cover by award-winning designer Pete Poplaski in the style of Bob Kane. It's a trip back to the Golden Age of The Batman and the syndicated comic strip.



Paul Kupperberg, Writer
Tammy Brown, Editor

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ENTER A *WORLD WITHOUT END*

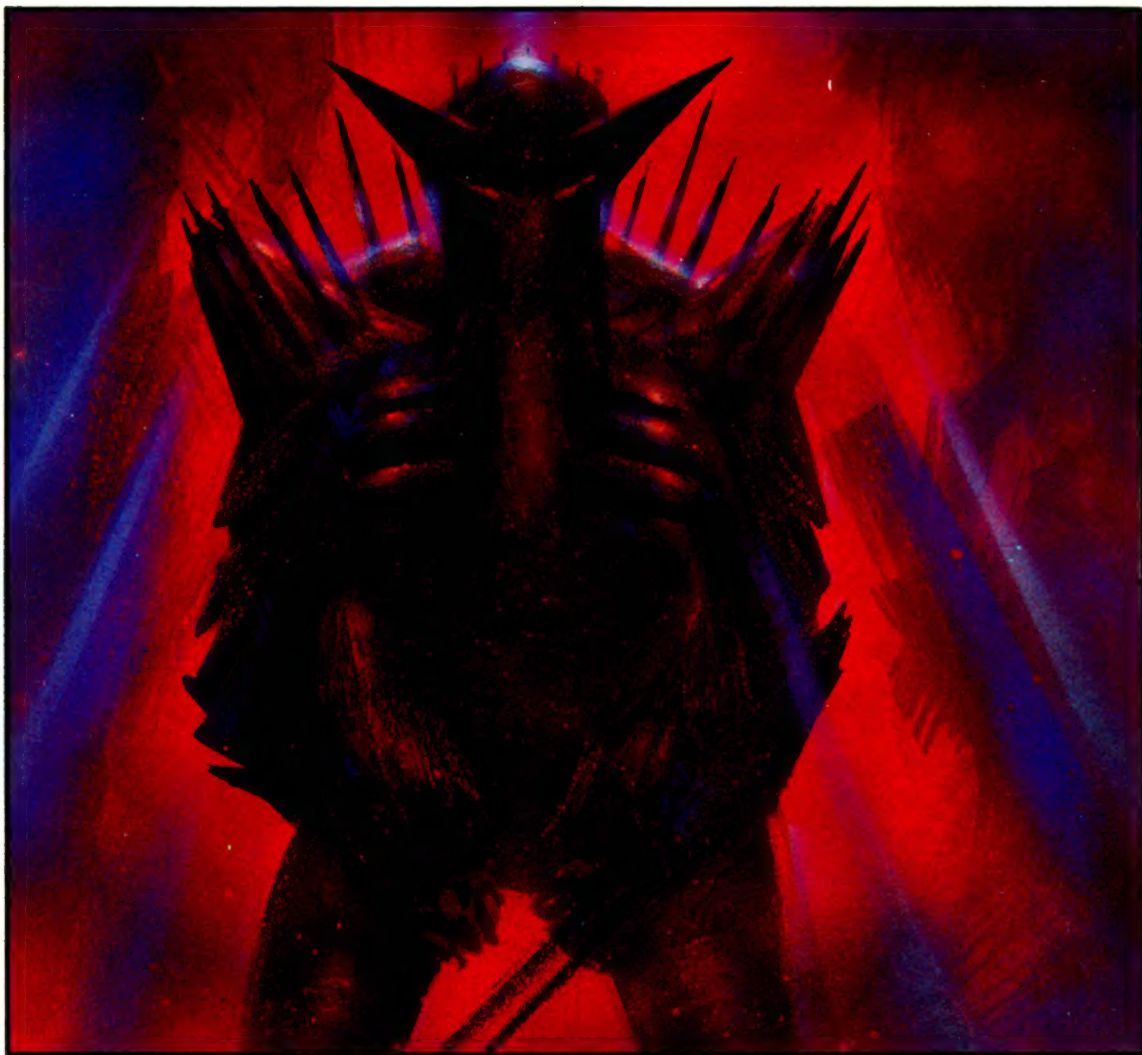
They call their living, breathing environment The Host.

They are the male supremacist society of The Gess, who occupy The Host's epicenter, known as Bedlam.

They are embroiled in a very deadly war between the sexes on a **WORLD WITHOUT END**. To combat a revolutionary female energy that threatens their male supremacist order, the brutal leaders of The Gess unleash their ultimate weapon . . . the super-commando Brother Bones.

WORLD WITHOUT END is a six-book limited series written by Jamie Delano and featuring fully-painted art by John Higgins in a special new format. WORLD WITHOUT END is suggested for mature readers.

It's the ultimate battle for the survival of our future and its peoples . . . it's a WORLD WITHOUT END.



BOOK SHIPPING IN NOVEMBER

ACTION COMICS #660

Not all the money or power in the world can save him . . . in this issue, Lex Luthor dies. Written by Roger Stern, with art by Bob McLeod and Brett Breeding. Cover by Kerry Gammill and Breeding. \$1.00

ADVANCED DUNGEONS & DRAGONS™ Comics #24

Part 1 of the 3-part "Scavengers": Following a battle far from Waterdeep, Vajra must bring the wounded Timoth to shelter among hostile centaurs during a raging battle. Written by Dan Mishkin, with art by Jan Duursema and Rick Magyar. Cover by Duursema. (New Format) \$1.75

ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #474

Clark Kent goes back to Smallville on New Year's Eve to relieve a guilt he's been living with since his high school years. Written and pencilled by Dan Jurgens, with inks by Art Thibert. Cover by Jurgens and Thibert. \$1.00

ANIMAL MAN #31

The secret of the mysterious ape-man begins to unravel when Nowhere Man makes an enlightening trip into the jungle, while the Angel Mob gets into more trouble. Written by Peter Milligan, with art by Chas Truog and Mark Farmer. Cover by Brian Bolland. (New Format) \$1.50

BATMAN #458

The Batman acquires a strange new ally when he saves an innocent man from a lynch mob. And, Commissioner Gordon finds himself falling in love all over again when Sarah Essen rejoins the Gotham P.D. Written by Alan Grant, with art by Norm Breyfogle and Steve Mitchell. Cover by Breyfogle. \$1.00

BATMAN: The Dailies Volume 1 (of a 3-volume series)

From the annals of comics history . . . DC Comics and Kitchen Sink Press have joined forces to re-present the daily Batman syndicated newspaper strip from the 1940s in its entirety, beginning with the strip's debut on October 25, 1943. Volume One features the first year of daily strips, as well as promotional material, original newspaper advertisements and an introduction based on new interviews with the surviving writer, artists, and editor. (Trade Paperback. 176 Pages.) \$9.95

BATMAN Tin Sign

To celebrate the publication of the Batman dailies, we present the Batman Tin Sign, an 11¼" x 15¾" embossed, full-color metal sign featuring 1940s-style art. It's a one-of-a-kind collector's item . . . the perfect companion piece to Batman: The Dailies. \$18.00

BOOKS OF MAGIC #1 (of a 4-book miniseries)

Enter "The Invisible Labyrinth" as we meet

Tim Hunter, the boy who's faced with the decision of whether to become the world's next great sorcerer. The Phantom Stranger leads him through Earth's magical past to encounter Merlin, Arion, Zatara, Sargon the Sorcerer, Jason Blood and others. Written by Neil Gaiman, with fully painted artwork and painted cover by John Bolton. (Prestige Format) \$3.95

CHECKMATE! #33 (Final Issue)

Checkmate's final mission in its own title as the entire Knight force engages in an all-out assault against the army seeking to overthrow the nation of Austanburg. Written by Paul Kupperberg, with art by Gabriel Morrisette and John Statema. Plus, a special 8-page backup that pits Checkmate against deadly arms dealers in exotic India. Written by Kupperberg, with art by Randy DuBurke. Cover by Steve Erwin and Will Blyberg. This final 32-page issue contains no advertising. (New Format) \$2.00

CAPTAIN ATOM #48

Red Tornado is back from the astral plane . . . and embarks on an insane rampage that only Captain Atom can stop. Written by Greg Weisman, with art by Rafael Kayanan and Romeo Tanghal. Cover by Michael Adams. \$1.00

THE DEMON #7

The Demon is crowned the King of Hell . . . and now must decide what price his old enemies are to pay for opposing him. The Pit of Hell is particularly hideous this time of year . . . Written by Alan Grant, with art and cover art by Val Se-meiks and Denis Rodier. (New Format) \$1.50

DETECTIVE COMICS #624

Part 3 of the 3-part "Demon Within": While Batman finally finds the madman who has been killing in his name, the Dark Knight's comic book counterpart confronts Catwoman. The main story is by John Ostrander, with art by Mike McKone and Jose Marzan, Jr., while the "comic book" story-within-the-story is by Ostrander, with art by Flint Henry. The cover art is by the Golden Age Batman great, Dick Sprang. \$1.00

DR. FATE #23

Lives end and souls are released . . . can these events herald the return of Kent and Inza Nelson? Written by J.M. DeMatteis, with art and cover by Shawn McManus. (New Format) \$1.50

THE DOOM PATROL #40

The aliens' war reaches its terrible climax. What role will the Doom Patrol play? Written by Grant Morrison, with art by Richard Case and Mark McKenna. Painted cover by Simon Bisley. (Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format.) \$1.50

DRAGONLANCE™ Comics #26

Ktarrh has disappeared, forcing

Riva and her companions to sail the Glass Sea in their search for the dragonmount. Written by Charles and Lisa Moore in their DC Comics debut, with art by Ron Randall and Randy Elliott. Cover by Randall. (New Format) \$1.75

FLASH #46

Part 2 of 3: Gorilla Grodd is back and he's got conquest on his mind . . . with Flash and Vixen making the last stand against the evil ape's animal army. Written by William Messner-Loebs, with art and cover by Greg LaRocque and José Marzan, Jr. \$1.00

FORGOTTEN REALMS™ Comics #17

Part 2 of the 4-part "Mad Gods and Paladins": The Elven god Labelas Enoreth has a plan . . . but to see it through, he needs the Realms Master to crash the gates of Heaven and make himself Lord of Creation. Written by Jeff Grubb, with art and cover by R.A. Morales and Dave Simons. (New Format) \$1.75

GREEN ARROW #41

Part 1 of 3. Ollie's journey continues, taking him out of the U.S.A. and into a relationship with a man who becomes a good friend . . . and a deadly influence. Written by Mike Grell, with art and cover by Denys Cowan and Bill Wray. (Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format.) \$1.25

GREEN LANTERN #8

Hal, Guy, John and the returned Guardians are confronted with the problem of how to kill an immortal, as they try once and for all to put a stop to the Mad Guardian's machinations. Written by Gerard Jones, with art by Pat Broderick and Bruce Patterson. Cover by Broderick and Mark Nelson. \$1.00

HAWK & DOVE #20

Ho ho ho! As the holiday season rolls around, Dawn may have to die hard when she gets caught in the middle of a toy store robbery, and becomes "A Babe in Toyland." Written by Barbara and Karl Kesel, with pencilling by Kevin Maguire, and cover by Maguire and Karl Kesel. \$1.00

HAWKWORLD #8

Hawkman and Hawkwoman clash in a battle of ideological beliefs that threatens not only to push them further apart but to destroy their partnership as well. Written by Tim Truman and John Ostrander, with art and cover by Graham Nolan. (New Format) \$1.50

HELLBLAZER #37

Constantine's first stop on his journey with Marj and Mercury brings him face to face with a sensitive teenager who is abused by his brutal father. Written by Jamie Delano, with art by Steve Pugh. Painted cover by Kent Williams. (Suggested for Mature Readers. New Format.) \$1.50